ABSTRACT

In a process comprising synthesizing pyranes including [R-(R*,R*)]-N-[3-[1-[5,6-dihydro-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-6-(2-phenylethyl)-6-propyl-2H-pyran-3-yl]propyl]phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide the present invention comprises the improvements comprising: (a) providing a racemic mixture of 3-hydroxy-3-(2-phenylethyl)-hexanoate ethyl acetate by reacting said 1-phenyl-hexan-3-one with ethylbromoacetate under Reformatsky conditions; and (b) separating (R)-3-hydroxy-3-(2-phenylethyl)-hexanoic acid in enantiomeric excess by saponification and reverse resolution of the racemate of step (a) to produce a resolved product. In addition, the present invention comprises a reverse resolution process for separating an enantiomer from a mixture of enantiomers.

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